

## Remarks

Please cancel claims 1-59. Please add claims 60-74. Support for the added claims can be found, *inter alia*, at pp. 14-19 of the specification.

Claims 1-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is believed to be mooted by the presently submitted claims. The presently submitted claims 60-74 define the compounds (and methods utilizing the compounds) in terms of specific structures.

Claims 1-28, 45-52, 54, and 56-59 were additionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. The presently submitted claims moot this rejection, as the presently submitted claims define the compounds claimed (and methods utilizing the compounds) in terms of specific structures.

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 11-14, 20-22, 26-31, 34, 36-39, 41-44, and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Sasaki & Koga (*J. Inclus. Pehn. Mol. Recog. Chem.*, 1989, 7, 267-76). This rejection is mooted by the presently submitted claims. Sasaki et al. disclose a method of synthesizing peptides using chiral crown ethers. The presently submitted claims require specific structural requirements, and Sasaki et al. fail to disclose any compound described by the formula of claim 60. Sasaki et al. also fail to disclose the method of cleaving a thioester or selenoester compound from a solid support, as recited in claim 73. Nor does Sasaki et al. disclose the thioester or selenoester generator compound of claim 74.

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11-13, 20, 26-29, 32, 36-37, 41-44, and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Baca et al., (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1995, 117, 1881-7). Baca et al. present a study asserting that unprotected sulfhydryl groups are compatible with the reactive elements used in thioester-forming chemical ligation of peptides. But Baca et al. fail to disclose or suggest any compound according to the presently submitted claims, which have specific structural requirements. Baca fails to disclose any compound within the formula of claim 60. Baca also fail to disclose any method according to claim 73 for cleaving a thioester or selenoester compound from a solid support.

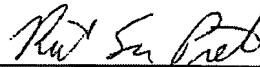
## Closing

Applicants submit that the present response is complete and complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §121, and that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions regarding the subject invention or its patentability, Applicant encourages the Examiner to contact the undersigned to answer such questions or provide additional information.

Applicants believe that no fee is due in association with this response. If the Applicants are in error, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment that may occur during the pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 01-0535.

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Respectfully submitted,



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